

# The Topeka State Journal.

10 CENTS A WEEK.

5 O'CLOCK. TOPEKA, KANSAS, TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 30, 1894.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR.

## BRAVE BENHAM.

He Compels Da Gama's Ships to Surrender.

After a Battle in Rio Harbor This Morning.

The Rebel Admiral Began the Engagement.

## FIRE ON OUR FLAG.

United States Admiral Responds Without Delay.

Da Gama Now a Prisoner in His Hands.

## GREAT EXCITEMENT

Caused in London and Washington by the News.

Dispatches from the Seat of War Somewhat Meagre.

**LOSTON, Jan. 30.**—Dispatches are received here from Rio de Janeiro dated January 30, saying that at 10 o'clock this morning Admiral Da Gama having opened fire on one of the American ships, a sharp engagement followed with the result that Admiral Da Gama surrendered.

**Dispatches from Buenos Ayres.**  
Buenos Ayres, Jan. 30.—It is reported here that the situation of affairs at Rio de Janeiro is most critical. Heavy firing is reported and it is said that the United States war vessels have been engaged with the result that Admiral Da Gama is said to report to have surrendered and according to another report to have withdrawn his ships from the immediate neighborhood of the city of Rio.

These sensational reports are not yet confirmed, but there seems to be no doubt that serious events are happening at Rio, and that the American admiral has taken energetic steps to protect American interests.

As the dispatch is being sent a report reaches here that Admiral Da Gama is a prisoner in the hands of President Polk. It is also rumored that the insurgent magazine was used upon the American fleet and that the latter returned the shot.

### The Situation at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 30.—It is understood here, through official corroborations, that the firing has taken place at Brazil between Admiral Benham and the insurgents. Who first fired can not be learned. It is positively known that the situation is serious and even critical.

**Households Get the News.**

London, Jan. 30.—The Rothschild banking house has received a dispatch from Rio de Janeiro saying that Admiral Da Gama has surrendered.

### Feeling at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 30.—There is a marked apprehension in the navy department that important happenings are taking place today in Rio, and that there is no means of getting the report of them out of the city.

There is excellent authority for the assertion heretofore made that shots were exchanged between the United States ships and the insurgent vessels yesterday. That seems to be about the last information received by the department. It is clearly implied that Admiral Benham had instructions, or at least permission, to protect these ships. This must of course have included authority to attack Da Gama if he interfered.

Men in Washington who know Admiral Benham well assert that if the Brazilian fleet had ships there would be no half way method in the course he would pursue in reply. This gives currency to an impression that there has been a hot naval engagement in Rio Barro.

Secretary Herbert after the cabinet meeting said that he had received no news which he could make public. When the information received by the Associated Press that there had been an engagement and that Da Gama had surrendered was given the secretary, he was evidently much startled. He said that his dispatches did not contain this information.

### The News in London.

London, Jan. 30.—The Brazilian minister here, upon being informed of the contents of the dispatch received by the Rothschild banking house, and of the contents of the other dispatches, saying that an engagement had taken place between the United States war vessels and the insurgents, and that Admiral Da Gama had surrendered, said that he had done just what the news was true. The Brazilian minister added that Admiral Da Mello now only had command of the Republics, and that the fall collapse of the revolt is only a question of a few days.

Baron Rothschild, upon being questioned by the Associated Press representative as to the source from which he had received the dispatch, said that the cable message came to him from what he considered to be a most reliable source, and that he had no reason to doubt its accuracy.

In conclusion the Brazilian minister said that from the source from which the news was received from Rio regarding the surrender of Admiral Da Gama, there cannot be the slightest question as to its truth, although no official confirmation has reached him.

What Will Benham Do With Them. A high official of the British foreign

office who was questioned by the Associated Press as to the accuracy of the dispatches received from Rio de Janeiro, and announcing the surrender of Admiral Da Gama, expressed the opinion that it might be true that the rebel admiral had surrendered to the United States admiral, as it would be the easiest way out of a great difficulty.

In conclusion the foreign official said he did not see what the United States admiral would do with Admiral Da Gama and the insurgents who surrendered with him.

"Admiral Benham," he added, "could not very well succeed the insurgents if he failed to capture them, and it was hardly probable that the United States government would care to assume the care of a mass of Brazilian insurgents for an indefinite period. Thus according to the report of the foreign office, if it was true that the insurgents had surrendered to the United States admiral, the latter would seem to have an elephant on his hands."

### WHAT LED UP TO IT.

Admiral Benham stopped Da Gama's Amazones Yesterday.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 30.—The cause of today's battle in Rio Janeiro's harbor which resulted in victory for the American squadron, was the action of Admiral Benham yesterday. Provoked beyond endurance of patience by the continued carelessness of the gunners aboard the rebel warship Aquidabá, Admiral Benham made a demonstration that filled the warring Brazilians with excitement and the rebel naval forces under Da Gama with anger.

The cause of the trouble was the treatment to which three American backs were subjected on last Saturday by the indiscriminate fusillade from the insurgent warships. The American vessels were the bark Amy, Captain Blackford, built in Bath, Me., in 1883, and owned by W. S. Wilson; the bark Good News, Captain Myrick, built in Baltimore in 1889, and owned by C. Mortar Stevens & Co., and the bark Julia Rollins, Captain Kishine, built in Baltimore in 1881, and owned by Thomas Rollins of that city.

On Saturday last, while lying at anchor, all three vessels were endangered by the chance shots fired by the insurgents. The bullet whistled through the rigging and passed the men upon the decks. Many of the crews of the three vessels narrowly escaped being shot.

After suffering a great deal of annoyance and running great risks in the hope that the insurgents would realize the folly of their action and put a stop to their recklessness, the three capitals held a hurried conference and determined to appeal for protection to the United States warships, and to request that the backs be given an escort to the wharves. Captains Kiching, Myrick and Blackford put off in small boats at great danger to themselves, and pulling up to where the flagship New York was stationed, asked that they be allowed a conference with Admiral Benham.

Upon stating the object of their visit their request was readily granted and they went aboard the New York. Admiral Benham listened intently to their story, and appeared to take the greatest interest in it, and when the captains had finished their statement he promised that he would do everything in his power to afford them the fullest protection. He did, however, that before making any display of force on the part of his fleet, or giving the captains the escort which they requested, he thought it only right to find out the insurgents' admiral, Admiral Da Gama, of the captain's complaint. Perhaps, he said, as a result of his visitation, Da Gama would promptly order his gunners to stop endangering American ships and this would terminate all further cause for complaint. Accordingly, Admiral Benham sent one of his officers to the Admiralty with orders to inquire if Admiral Da Gama with the facts in the case and to ask him to have an end put to the reckless gunning.

Da Gama was apparently in a very bad humor when the American officers arrived on board and with many accusations of impatience, he listened to the recital of the captain's grievances. He was evidently still annoyed over the unsatisfactory conferences which he had held with Admiral Benham, and was compelled to do anything which would prove pleasing to the commander-in-chief. United States fleet. When the American officer had finished making his statement, Da Gama, with a shrug of his shoulders, sat in a very sharp tone: "It is not my fault. The American ship captains should know enough to keep themselves and their crews out of the range of our guns. I shall not take any notice of this matter."

This curt response to his message aroused the ire of Admiral Benham, and he determined to make a showing that would produce a lasting effect upon the insurgents. Early Monday morning, however, the greatest activity prevailed on board the deck. Shortly after daybreak the docks of the flagship New York, of the Newark, San Francisco, Detroit and other United States war vessels were cleared for action and their anchors were raised.

Admiral Benham then sent word to the captains of the Good News, Julia Rollins and Amy that he was prepared to keep his promise to them, and that as soon as they were ready to the wharves he would escort them to the wharves. And he did.

The Detroit took the leading part in the procession. The fleet approached nearer to Rio, came quite close to the shore, causing intense excitement among both the soldiers and civilians on land and the sailors on board the various vessels.

The Amy proceeded on her way to the wharf and was safely moored there. Not until her captain had reported that he was fully satisfied did his powerful escort leave him.

### ADMIRAL BENHAM.

Something About the American Naval Officer in Command at Rio.

A. E. K. Benham was born in New York in 1832. He was appointed from New York November 24, 1847; and was attached successively to sloop "Plymouth," East India squadron, 1847-8; brig "Dolphin," East India squadron, 1848-50; sloop "Plymouth," 1850-51; steam-frigate "Saratoga" home squadron, 1851-2; naval academy, 1852.

He was promoted to post midshipman, June 10, 1853, and assigned to sloop "St. Mary's," Pacific squadron, 1853-7. Being commissioned as lieuten-

ant, September 16, 1853; he served in the coast survey, 1857-8; steamer "Westernport," Brazil squadron and Paraguay expedition, 1858-9; steamer "Crusader," Home squadron, 1859-1; steamer "Blissville," South Atlantic blockade squadron, 1861-2; battle of Port Royal, 1861; steamer "Sacramento," 1863. He was commissioned as lieutenant commander July 16, 1862, commanded steam gunboat "Pemberton," western gulf blockade squadron, 1862-3; was on temporary duty, navy yard, New York, 1866, and with steamer "Sasquehanna," special service, 1867. Commissioned as commander June 9, 1867, he served in navy yard, New York, 1868-9, and as lighthouse inspector 1870-1; commanding "Cannons" (ironclad), North Atlantic station, 1871-2; commanding "Saugus" (ironclad), North Atlantic station, 1872-3; lighthouse inspector, 1874-8. Commissioned as captain March 12, 1875, he commanded "Richmond" Aspinwall station, 1875-81; navy yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1882-4; lighthouse inspector, 1885-6. He was promoted to commodore October, 1886-7; commanding "Canopus" (ironclad), North Atlantic station, 1887-8; commanding "Saugus" (ironclad), North Atlantic station, 1888-9; lighthouse inspector, 1890-1; commanding "Richmond" Aspinwall station, 1891-2; rear admiral February, 1892.

He was promoted to rear admiral February, 1892.

Admiral Benham, he added, "could not very well succeed the insurgents if he failed to capture them, and it was hardly probable that the United States government would care to assume the care of a mass of Brazilian insurgents for an indefinite period. Thus according to the report of the foreign office, if it was true that the insurgents had surrendered to the United States admiral, the latter would seem to have an elephant on his hands."

THE WHISKY MAKERS.

They Are Willing to Stand the Ten Cent Tax.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Representative Post of Illinois, who represents the Peoria district where distilled spirits are produced more extensively than in any other portion of the world, was asked today concerning the attitude of his constituents on the proposed increase of 10 cents per gallon on whisky and other distilled spirits.

"The distillers are perfectly willing and ready," said he, "to take any law which congress sees fit to enact on this subject."

"They feel that if others can stand it, they can. They have sent no agents here to urge their interests one way or the other, and are remaining entirely passive on the matter."

Mr. Post was asked how the particular features of the change revenue law would be accepted by the distillers.

"The increase of tax is about an offset," said he, "to the extension of the loading period from three to eight years. With an eight-year period the distillers can consult their own time to paying the tax and taking the goods out of bond, and they can easily make arrangements to adjust their taxes within this wide range."

"In one respect," continued Mr. Post, "the increase in the tax may be injurious to the distillers in encouraging moonshining. The extra 10 cent tax will make moonshining more profitable."

### SULLIVAN IS SICK.

Blood Poisoning Which May Cost Him From Further Fistic Efforts.

BALTIMORE, Conn., Jan. 30.—John L. Sullivan is at a hotel in this city suffering from a badly swollen hand.

It is rumored that blood poisoning has attacked him, and that his condition is so bad as to preclude any further boxing.

NO PENSIONS FOR ALIENS.

Representative Hall Says They Should Be Counted Citizens or Not Draw Pay.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Representative Hall of Missouri will introduce a bill providing that no pension shall be paid to any person who is not a citizen of the United States; he says that many foreigners who participated in the late war, and who under the present pension laws are drawing pensions, should become citizens, or give up their pensions.

### TODAY'S TELEGRAPH TIPS.

Fire gutted the five-story building at 63 and 64 Canal street, Chicago, this morning, entailing a loss of \$60,000.

At the request of the chief of police of Steubenville, Ohio, the St. Louis authorities placed under arrest William R. Johnson, editor of the Evening Star of that city, the charge being embezzlement.

In a communication to the council last evening, Mayor D'Arenmont of Duluth, Minn., practically charged that \$15,000 of the city's money had been misappropriated by officials of the American Loan and Trust company.

The Hys (England) Mill company's cotton mill of eight thousand spindles has been destroyed by fire. Several of the firemen had narrow escapes from death and serious injury while combating the flames. The loss is estimated at £100,000.

Ex-Lient. Ivanhoff and his brother Luka, charged with being concealed in a plot to murder Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, has been sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment. Stejina, another of the conspirators, was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

Chinese officials are seriously alarmed over the widespread mood and seriously fear the overflow of the Peking-Ho and the Tung-Kuang in impelling Tso-kien. The officials are desirous of enlisting the best foreign engineering skill for the erection of dams to protect the city.

Cot. Wm. Henry Harrison Taylor, for the past seventeen years state librarian of Minnesota, died at his home in St. Paul this morning after an illness of five months. His first wife was his second cousin, a daughter of General, afterwards President Wm. Henry Harrison, whose private secretary while president Col. Taylor was.

At the instance of Senator Carey of Wyoming, the commissioner of the general land office, has ordered to be examined all the lists of applications for patents for lands on the part of the Union Pacific railroad company, which have been filed in Wyoming, in order that patents may be issued.

Frank Brill, an employee of the Western Lead company of Boone Terre, Mo., while leaning over the railing in the hoisting tower yesterday was struck on the head by the cage and killed. The power of the blow jerked him over the railing and he fell 300 feet, where his body crashed through a door of two inch plank.

### G. W. Childs' Condition the Same.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30.—Mr. Childs' condition is unchanged. He remains in practically the same state as when the last bulletin was issued last night.

IN CONGRESS.

## IN CONGRESS.

The Last Hours of the Tariff Bill Discussion.

The Income Tax Feature is Talked About.

### JOHN SHERMAN TALKS.

He Defends Carlisle's Issue of the Bonds.

Regards It as the Best Possible Move.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—The call of committees for reports was disposed of this morning, and the house went immediately into committee of the whole, and the tariff debate was resumed.

Mr. Cox (Dem., Tenn.), followed in support of the income tax, and argued that if it did bear more heavily in the east and north than in the south, it was because the protective system dictated by the north and east had concentrated the wealth of the country in those sections.

Mr. W. A. Stone (Rep., Penn.) opposed the income tax in a brief but vigorous speech.

### IN THE SENATE.

John Sherman Defends the Issue of the Gold Bonds.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Senator Washburn, of Minnesota, presented a petition of 6,000 citizens of St. Louis county, Minnesota, protesting against putting iron ore on the free list.

The resolution of Senator Stewart, of Nevada, declaring the proposed issue of bonds to be without authority of law, was taken up, and Mr. Stewart addressed the senate in its favor.

Senator Sherman followed Mr. Stewart and criticized severely the attacks upon the credit of the nation in the resolution proposed by Senator Stewart and in Senator Allen's speech. He maintained that the secretary had full authority to issue the bonds.

### MET BUT TO ADJOURN.

The State Live Stock Sanitary Board Held Short Session.

The state live stock sanitary commission were in session at the Copeland a few hours today, but adjourned because of the failure of the United department of agriculture to issue their quarantining regulations.

The state board met to establish the quarantine laws for the state but desired to act in conformity with the United States laws, and not being able to ascertain them, adjourned to meet February 15.

The quarantine laws go into effect February 1.

The members of the board present at today's meeting were President J. T. White of Ada, George C. Pringle, Topeka, E. E. Hill, Emporia, and E. N. Turner, Marysville.

### THE FRENCH TARIFF.

Didnt Want to Modify It But Industries Had to Be Protected.